(a) whether India has hosted a three day International Education for All Summit in November, 2003;

(b) if so, the countries that have participated and subjects discussed in this Summit;

(c) whether any declaration was made to ensure that children particularly girls has access to free and compulsory primary education by 2015; and

(d) if so, whether the Conference urged that special measures be taken to target adult illiteracy since mothers enhance access of girls to education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (b) The third meeting of the High Level Group on Education for All (EFA) was cohosted by India and UNESCO during 10-12th November, 2003. Sixteen countries, namely, Kyrgystan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Cuba, Egypt, France, Guyana, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan and India participated in this meet.

The main subjects discussed were:

(i) Review of progress on EFA goals set in Dakar,

(ii) Action agenda for achieving gender goals,

(iii) National planning and policy reform,

(iv) International action for support and financing of EFA, and

(v) Challenges and opportunities: The path ahead.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

Bill on domestic violence

†1932. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bill regarding curbing of domestic violence against women is still pending;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken regarding introduction of the said Bill during the current session of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) to (c) The Protection from Domestic Violence Bill, 2002 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 8th March, 2002. The Bill was examined and reported upon by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on H.R.D. in its 124th Report. The same is being examined by the Government.

Women study centres

†1933. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.G.C. has taken a decision to change the name of women study centres; and

(b) if so, justification for taking such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

MoU with Pakistan

1934. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Publishers have signed a MoU with Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association to promote book trade and co-publishing; and

(b) if so, what are the details of MoU signed by both the countries and to what extent it will beneficial to each other?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.